PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

In the Matter of the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Certificate and/or Licenses to Practice Public Accounting of:

No. ACB-1501

CONSENT AGREEMENT

Eugene Ng Certificate No. 22033

Respondent.

The Washington State Board of Accountancy (Board) and Eugene Ng (Respondent), stipulate and agree as follows:

Section 1: Procedural Stipulations

- 1.1 Respondent understands that the Board has issued a Statement of Charges in this matter and may proceed to a hearing before the Board upon the merits of said charges. The Board has not proceeded to a hearing in order to facilitate resolution of this matter in accordance with the legislative intent endorsed in RCW 34.05.060 and the provisions of WAC 4-30-140.
- 1.2 Respondent has the right to defend against a Statement of Charges by demanding a hearing and presenting evidence on the Respondent's behalf. Respondent voluntarily waives the right to a hearing and all other rights that may be accorded the Respondent by the Administrative Procedures Act, chapter 34.05 RCW, and the laws of Washington, including the right to petition the courts for judicial review.
- 1.3 Respondent understands that should the Board prevail at hearing based on the Statement of Charges that the Board has the power and authority to deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse

to renew the Respondent's CPA certificate or any individual or firm licenses to practice public accounting as a CPA or CPA firm in Washington and may impose a fine plus the Board's investigative and legal costs in bringing charges or impose conditions precedent to renewal of the certificate or license, or impose full restitution to injured parties.

- 1.4 Respondent wishes to expedite the resolution of this matter by means of this Consent

 Agreement and does not desire to proceed to a formal hearing based on the issuance of a

 Statement of Charges.
- 1.5 Respondent understands that the terms of this Consent Agreement are not binding unless approved by the Board and fully executed.
- Should this Consent Agreement be rejected by the Board and the Board proceeds with the issued Statement of Charges, the Respondent waives any objection to the participation of any members of the Board at a hearing on this matter, other than the consulting Board member in this proceeding.

The parties further stipulate to the following Stipulated Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Agreed Order:

Section 2: Stipulated Facts

- 2.1 At all times material hereto, Eugene Ng, the Respondent herein, held an individual Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Inactive Certificate in the state of Washington, No. 22033.
- 2.2 On April 29, 2018, Respondent submitted an application for the renewal of his CPA-Inactive Certificate. Respondent was required to complete an ethics course between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2017. In his renewal application, Respondent listed an ethics course as completed on December 28, 2017, and included the course title and

- CPE provider name. The application was approved through the Board's online renewal system.
- 2.3 Respondent was included in the Board's 2018 CPE Audit. In response to the audit, Respondent provided the certificate for a CPE course completed on April 29, 2018.
- 2.4 Board staff requested a copy of the CPE certificate for the ethics course listed for December 28, 2017. Respondent failed to provide the certificate.
- 2.5 Board staff contacted the CPE provider that Respondent listed in his renewal application.
 The provider's only record for Respondent was for a course completed on April 29, 2018.
 The provider had no record of Respondent completing a course on December 28, 2017.
- 2.6 Respondent has a previous history of a violation and agreed to a Remedial Resolution in 2016 for failure to complete required ethics courses. Respondent fulfilled the requirements of the Remedial Resolution, which included completion of an ethics course.

Section 3: Conclusions of Law

- 3.1 The Board has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the subject matter of this proceeding.
- Failure to complete a course in ethics and regulation within the reporting window, as set out above, constitutes cause for Board sanction under RCW 18.04.295 and WAC 4-30-134(6).

Section 4: Agreed Order

- 4.1 Respondent consents to the entry of this Agreement and has waived any right to a hearing.
- 4.2 Pursuant to RCW 18.04.295, the Board has the power to impose discipline. Based on the preceding Stipulated Facts and Conclusions of Law, the Board and Respondent agree to the following:
 - 4.2.1 Respondent's individual CPA-Inactive certificate shall be suspended.

- 4.2.2 The suspension of Respondent's CPA-Inactive certificate shall be stayed. Should Respondent fail to meet any requirements of this Consent Agreement, the stay shall be immediately vacated and the three year suspension shall be imposed in its entirety. Additionally, if it is determined, after due notice and opportunity for hearing, that during the stayed suspension period Respondent violates or fails to comply with Chapter 18 RCW, or Title 4 WAC, the Board may vacate the stay and impose any sanctions deemed appropriate by the Board.
- 4.2.3 The course completed by Respondent on April 29, 2018, shall be carried back to the 2015 through 2017 reporting period. This course shall not be considered towards the requirements of any other reporting period.
- 4.2.4 Respondent shall participate in, and pass, the next applicable CPE audit.
- 4.2.5 Respondent shall pay the Board a fine in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) within 90 days of the service of this Agreement. Such fine shall be made payable to the Washington State Board of Accountancy and remitted to the Washington State Board of Accountancy at PO Box 9131, Olympia, WA, 98507-9131.
- 4.2.6 Respondent shall pay the Board the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750) to reimburse the Board's investigative and legal costs within 90 days of the service of this Agreement. Such reimbursement shall be made payable to the Washington State Board of Accountancy and remitted to the Washington State Board of Accountancy at PO Box 9131, Olympia, WA 98507-9131.

I, Eugene Ng, certify that I have read this Consent Agreement in its entirety, and that I fully understand and agree to all of it and that it may be presented to the Board without my appearance. If the Board accepts the Consent Agreement, I understand that I will receive a signed copy.

DATED this ______ day of ______, 2019.

RESPONDENT

Eugene Ng

The Board accepts and enters this Consent Agreement.

DATED this 8 day of Jucy, 2019.

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

Mark Hugh, CPA

Chair